

In the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating biometric security in a smartcard transaction system comprising:

receiving a proffered biometric sample at a biometric sensor configured on a smartcard; verifying said proffered biometric sample, including determining whether said proffered biometric sample is associated with a preset transaction limitation independent of a financial account limitation;

verifying whether a smartcard transaction is in compliance with said preset transaction limitation; and

facilitating authorization of said smartcard transaction.

2. (Previously Presented) The method for of claim 1, further comprising registering said proffered biometric sample with an authorized sample receiver.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of registering includes at least one of: contacting said authorized sample receiver, proffering said proffered biometric sample to said authorized sample receiver, associating said proffered biometric sample with user information, verifying said proffered biometric sample, and storing said proffered biometric sample upon verification.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said proffered biometric further includes at least one of: storing, comparing, and verifying said proffered biometric sample.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said proffered biometric sample further includes processing database information, wherein said database information is contained in at least one of said smartcard, a smartcard reader, said biometric sensor, a remote server, a merchant server and said smartcard system.

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6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said proffered biometric sample further includes comparing said proffered biometric sample with a stored biometric sample.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said step of comparing includes comparing said proffered biometric sample to said stored biometric sample by using at least one of a third-party security vendor device and a local CPU.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said proffered biometric sample further includes at least one of detecting, processing and storing a second proffered biometric sample.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of verifying said proffered biometric sample further includes using a secondary security procedure, said secondary security procedure including sending a signal to said smartcard to notify that an established rule for said smartcard is being violated.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said proffered biometric sample at said biometric sensor includes receiving said proffered biometric sample at at least one of a: a retinal scan sensor, an iris scan sensor, a fingerprint sensor, a hand print sensor, a hand geometry sensor, a voice print sensor, a vascular sensor, a facial sensor, an ear sensor, a signature sensor, a keystroke sensor, an olfactory sensor, an auditory emissions sensor, and a DNA sensor.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said preset transaction limitation is further associated with at least one of a: charge card account, credit card account, debit card account, savings account, private label account and loyalty point account.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said preset transaction limitation comprises at least one of a maximum transaction amount, minimum transaction amount, maximum number of transactions within a time period, maximum number of transactions, use by certain merchants, temporal limitation, geographic limitation, and use of non-monetary funds.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising requiring a second proffered biometric sample to override said preset transaction limitation.

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15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said stored biometric sample is stored by one of a third-party biometric security vendor and a governmental agency.